

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A videoscope for examining a surface, said videoscope comprising:

5 (a) a sensor end having an image detector and at least one sensor selected from the group consisting of an eddy current sensor and an ultrasonic sensor;

(b) a handle; and

(c) an elongated arm that comprises a conduit that connects the sensor end to the handle;

10 wherein the conduit houses a link that transmits image information from the image detector through the conduit; and

wherein the conduit further houses at least first and second working channels that extend from the sensor end to the handle;

wherein fluid injected at a handle end of the conduit passes through the first working channel, out the sensor end, and onto the surface under examination; and

15 wherein the second working channel transmits signals from the eddy current or ultrasonic sensor that is passed through the conduit.

2. The videoscope of claim 1 further comprising at least one light source positioned at or near the sensor end.

3. The videoscope of claim 2 further comprising at least one optical fiber adapted to
20 transmit light to the at least one light source, wherein the at least one optical fiber is positioned within the arm and extends along the length of the arm.

4. The videoscope of claim 3 wherein the image detecting element is a CCD (charge coupled device), and the at least one transmission path for transmitting signals from the CCD comprises at least one electrical conductor.

5. A method of using a videoscope comprising:
using the videoscope to identify a portion of an assembly to which fluid is to be applied;
and
using the videoscope to deliver and apply fluid to the identified portion.
- 5 6. The method of claim 5 wherein the fluid delivered is water or a dye.
7. The method of claim 5 further comprising using the videoscope to place a sensor in
contact with the fluid applied to the identified portion of the assembly.
8. The method of claim 7 wherein the sensor is an ultrasound sensor, the fluid delivered is
water, and the method further comprises using the ultrasound sensor to examine the
10 portion of the assembly to which fluid was applied.
9. The method of claim 5 wherein the fluid is a dye or other marking fluid and the method
comprises removing a portion of the assembly limiting access to the marked portion of
the assembly, and then using the applied marking fluid to re-identify the marked portion
of the assembly.
- 15 10. A videoscope comprising an elongated arm having at least two working channels.